

Southern University and A&M College System
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
Board of Supervisors Meeting Room
2nd Floor, J.S. Clark Administration Building
Baton Rouge, Louisiana
9 a.m.
Friday, January 6, 2017

Minutes

The meeting of the Southern University Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairman Leon R. Tarver II. The invocation was given by the Rev. Lee Allen Pounds, pastor, Sweet Home Missionary Baptist Church of Kentwood, LA.

PRESENT

Mrs. Ann Smith, Atty. Tony Clayton, Dr. Leroy Davis, Mr. Raymond Fondel, Ms. Jordan Franklin, Dr. Curman Gaines, Rev. Donald R. Henry, Mr. Richard Hilliard, Atty. Patrick Magee, Atty. Domoine Rutledge, Dr. Leon R. Tarver II, Rev. Samuel Tolbert

ABSENT

Rev. Joe R. Gant, Mr. Michael Small and Dr. Rani Whitfield

UNIVERSITY PERSONNEL ATTENDING

System President Ray Belton, Chief of Staff Robyn Merrick, Executive Vice President and Provost M. Christopher Brown, Vice President for Finance and Business Affairs Flandus McClinton, Chancellor-Elect Lisa Mims Devezin (SUNO), Chancellor Bobby Phills (SUAREC), Chancellor Rodney Ellis (SUSLA), and Chancellor John Pierre (SULC).

BOARD COUNSEL

Attys. Winston DeCuir, Jr., and Tracie Woods

Atty. Winston DeCuir Jr. administered the oath of office to incoming Board members Dr. Leroy Davis, Mr. Richard Hilliard, Atty. Domoine Rutledge, Mrs. Ann Smith and Rev. Samuel Tolbert.

Mrs. Ann Smith, President Ray Belton, Chancellor Lisa Mims-Devezin, Chancellor Rodney Ellis, Chancellor Bobby Phills, Chancellor John Pierre presented tokens of appreciation to outgoing Chairman of the Board, Dr. Leon R. Tarver II.

Board Vice Chair Rev. Donald R. Henry expressed appreciation to his wife and sister for attending.

Board Chair Ann Smith commended previous Board Chair Dr. Leon R. Tarver II for his leadership. Mrs. Smith also recognized members of her immediate family. Louisiana State Representative Robby Carter of Greensburg, LA also was recognized and invited to address Board members. Representative Carter congratulated new Board members and officers and expressed his support of the SU System.

AGENDA ITEM 3: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Upon the motion by Dr. Tarver and seconded by Rev. Henry the agenda was recommended for adoption.

Motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 4: PUBLIC COMMENTS

NONE

AGENDA ITEM 5: ACTION ITEMS

A. Minutes of the December 16, 2016, regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors

Upon the motion by Mr. Fondel and seconded by Rev. Henry, the minutes of the December 16, 2016, meeting were recommended for approval.

Motion passed unanimously.

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors for the Southern University System that the minutes of the December 16, 2016, meeting, be and they are hereby approved.

B. Approval of Annual Risk Assessment and Audit Plan, SUS

President-Chancellor Belton asked Vice President for Finance and Business Affairs Flandus McClinton to present the annual risk assessment and audit plan prepared by the System Director of Internal Audit. He stated that the audit plan is required to be presented to the Board every two years.

Upon the motion by Atty. Magee and seconded by Rev. Henry the annual risk assessment and audit plan was recommended for approval.

Motion passed.

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors for the Southern University System that the annual risk assessment and audit plan for the SU System be, and it is hereby approved.

Upon the motion by Atty. Clayton and seconded by Atty. Magee, agenda items 5C – 5E were recommended for approval in globo.

Motion passed.

C. Ratification of BA-7, Mid-Year Budget Reduction

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors for the Southern University System that BA-7, mid-year budget reduction be and it is hereby approved.

D. Approval for Change in Scope of Childcare Building to Dental Hygiene Building, SUSLA

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors for the Southern University System that the change in scope of the childcare building be changed to the dental hygiene building, SUSLA be and it is hereby approved.

E. Approval of Personnel Action on Positions greater than \$60,000

1. JoAnn Brown

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors for the Southern University System, that the new appointment of JoAnn Brown as Dean, Allied Health and Nursing, SUSLA at a salary of \$70,000 be and it hereby is approved.

2. Dr. Barry Hester

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors for the Southern University System, that the new appointment of Dr. Barry Hester, Dean, Business, Math, Science and Technology, SUSLA at a salary of \$65,265 be and it hereby is approved.

3. Dr. Lonnie McCray

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors for the Southern University System, that new appointment of Dr. Lonnie McCray as Dean, Arts, Humanities, Social Sciences and Education, SUSLA at a salary of \$55,000 be and it hereby is approved.

F. Resolutions

President-Chancellor Belton offered the following resolutions:

Condolences

The Oranell Smith White Family

The William Turner Family

The Rosalyn Williams Family

Upon the motion by Rev. Henry and seconded by Atty. Magee the resolutions presented were recommended for approval.

Motion passed.

RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors for the Southern University System that resolutions presented be and they are hereby approved.

Atty. Clayton was recognized by Board Chair Ann Smith. Atty. Clayton invited former Board Chairman Johnny Anderson to the podium to speak. Mr. Anderson congratulated new board officers and expressed support for the University on behalf of the Governor's office and expressed his personal affinity for the University and its wellbeing.

6. Informational Items

a. Medical Marijuana Update

President-Chancellor Belton called Atty. Preston Castille who introduced Marijuana Policy Group partner Adam Orens and Denver Relief Consulting Founding Partner Kayvan Khalatbari both based in Denver, Colorado. MPG will provide procurement and consulting services in legal marijuana and will develop the state-sanctioned marijuana cultivation facilities. They discussed a tentative timeline for cultivation of the first plants and gave an update on RFP selection.

b. Priority Projects Updates, by Campuses

Vice President for Finance and Business Affairs Flandus McClinton highlighted several items from the printed report that was included in the meeting packet. He also discussed the lighting on the campus and the fact that 85-90% of the project is complete to ensure safety of employees and students.

c. Interim Financial Report

Vice President for Finance and Business Affairs Flandus McClinton discussed the report that was included in the packet. He stated that all campuses were on target with spending and several campuses had a reduction in revenue based on enrollment; he assured board members that expenditures would be adjusted to stay in line with the budget.

d. System President's Report

President-Chancellor Belton informed Board members that he had met with Mayor President Sharon Weston Broome's transition sub-committee on Economic Development. He also announced that the satellite campus of SU in downtown Baton Rouge had begun holding classes and commended Atty. Preston Castille for his leadership in this regard. He also announced a great opportunity for the University to develop a specialty certificate in petroleum engineering with SU Alum Mrs. Irma Turner who is currently working at local company Occidental-Chemical Corporation as a reservoir engineer. Discussions have begun with Dr. Patrick Carriere, dean of the College of Engineering and Dr. Michael Stubblefield, director of research and strategic initiatives.

e. Campus Reports

Each Campus Chancellor submitted written reports that were included in the meeting packet.

SUNO – Chancellor Mims-Devezin announced that the keynote speaker for the faculty and staff conference for the spring semester is Dr. Calvin Mackie. She also announced that registration at SUNO begins Tuesday, January 10.

SUSLA – Chancellor Ellis publicly thanked Board members Rev. Tolbert and Rev. Gant for attending a luncheon to engage the religious community in the area.

SUAREC- Dr. Bobby Phills thanked Board members for their support.

SULC – Chancellor Pierre stated that Fall 2016 graduates of the Southern University Law Center (SULC) would be recognized in a Hooding Ceremony at 6 p.m., Friday, January 6, where litigation partner at Phelps Dunbar, Dennis Blount would be the speaker. He also informed Board members that on January 16, SULC Alum Briana Westry-Robinson was elected District Judge in Wilcox County, making her the youngest judge in the state of Alabama. Also announced that SULC would be participating in a project with the WK Kellogg Foundation on a national day of healing and working in concert with the incoming BR city mayor's office on developing a position paper on community policing and criminal justice reform.

Atty. Magee was recognized by Board Chair Ann Smith. Atty. Magee stated that a commendation should be sent to District Judge Westry Robinson. He also stated that the campuses should be involved with criminal justice reform and community policing.

SUBR – Dr. M. Christopher Brown announced the dates of student registration, January 5 – January 10 and announced that academic convocation would be held Tuesday, January 10.

In response to Atty. Magee’s question regarding the status of the search for the graduate school, Dr. Belton stated that an update would be provided at the February Board meeting.

In response to a question from Atty. Clayton who wanted a comparison of the number of students who had paid fees compared to last year at this time. Dr. M. Christopher Brown stated that there is only a difference of 1 student. Last year there were 5,186 students paid compared to 5,185 students this year. Atty. Clayton also asked about retention efforts. Dr. Brown stated that the University would be engaging with Grades First to address the matter. Dr. Brown explained that Grades First is a web-based student performance monitoring system that provides automated student services and communication between faculty and the academic administration.

G. Other Business

NONE

H. Adjournment

Upon the motion by Atty. Clayton and seconded by Rev. Henry the meeting adjourned.